Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning a passage including a liquid droplet ejection head and a conduit to feed ~~a functional~~ an ink solution to the liquid droplet ejection head, the method comprising:

filling the passage with water;

replacing the water with a first solvent capable of dissolving both the water and a second solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution and suctioning the water from the liquid droplet ejection head by a suction ~~unit;~~unit, the water being removed from the passage; and

replacing the first solvent with the second solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution, and suctioning the first solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit.~~unit, the first solvent being removed from the passage.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning a passage including a liquid droplet ejection head filled with a predetermined storage solution and a conduit to feed ~~a~~ ~~functional~~ an ink solution to the liquid droplet ejection head, the method comprising:

replacing the predetermined storage solution with a first solvent capable of dissolving the predetermined storage solution, and suctioning the predetermined storage solution from the liquid droplet ejection head by a suction ~~unit;~~unit, the predetermined storage solution being removed from the passage;

replacing the first solvent with a second solvent capable of dissolving both the first solvent and a third solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution, and suctioning the first solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit;~~unit, the first solvent being removed from the passage; and

replacing the second solvent with the third solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution, and suctioning the second solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit.~~unit, the second solvent being removed from the passage.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

replacing the second solvent with the ~~functional~~ ink solution, and suctioning the second solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit.~~unit, the second solvent being removed from the passage.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of storing a passage including a liquid droplet ejection head and a conduit to feed ~~a functional~~an ink solution to the liquid droplet ejection head, the method comprising:

filling the passage with a first solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution;

replacing the first solvent with a second solvent capable of dissolving both the first solvent and water, and suctioning the first solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit;~~unit, the first solvent being removed from the passage;

replacing the second solvent with water, and suctioning the second solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit;~~unit, the second solvent being removed from the passage; and

replacing the water with a water-soluble storage solution, and suctioning the water from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit.~~unit, the water being removed from the passage.

5. (Currently Amended) A storage method including filling a passage, including a liquid droplet ejection head and a conduit to feed ~~a functional~~an ink solution to the liquid droplet ejection head, with a predetermined storage solution, the method comprising:

filling the passage with a first solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution;

replacing the first solvent with a second solvent capable of dissolving both the first solvent and the predetermined storage solution, and suctioning the first solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit;~~unit, the first solvent being removed from the passage;

replacing the second solvent with a third solvent capable of dissolving the predetermined storage solution, and suctioning the second solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit;~~unit, the second solvent being removed from the passage; and

replacing the third solvent with the predetermined storage solution, suctioning the third solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit.~~unit, the third solvent being removed from the passage.

6-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2, further comprising:

replacing the third solvent with the ~~functional~~ ink solution, suctioning at least one of the third solvent and the ~~functional~~ ink solution from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit.~~unit, at least one of the third solvent and the ink solution being removed from the passage.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning a liquid droplet ejection apparatus having a passage including a liquid droplet ejection head and a conduit to feed ~~a functional~~an ink solution to the liquid droplet ejection head, the method comprising:

filling the passage with water;

replacing the water with a first solvent capable of dissolving both the water and a second solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution, and suctioning the water from the liquid droplet ejection head by a suction ~~unit;~~unit, the water being removed from the passage; and

replacing the first solvent with the second solvent contained in the ~~functional~~ ink solution, and suctioning the first solvent from the liquid droplet ejection head by the suction ~~unit.~~unit, the first solvent being removed from the passage.